



INTRODUCTION TO THE COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING (C.I.T.) PROGRAM

COUNSELOR IN TRAINING APPLICATION

Why Be a Counselor In Training?

- Gain a behind-the-scenes experience of the camp community.
- Establish job and character references.
- Personal growth and expanded self-esteem through leadership opportunities.
- After the C.I.T program you will have the ability/skills needed to work with children in a camp community, after school program or any youth program.

The camp environment provides a unique opportunity for youth to build leadership skills, particularly in assisting counselors with younger campers. The goal of the training program is to develop general skills of leadership that you can use throughout life at school, home and community (not just at camp) For younger campers in transition from camper to camp counselor leaders (ages 12-15). The curriculum includes working with younger kids at camp.

The Counselors-in-Training (CITs) program serves as a way to transition from camper to camp counselor in hope of going into CIT II at camp the next summer. The next step would be a CIT III, leading to becoming a paid camp staff member. You need to learn more specific skills for working with kids and co-workers, and more experience planning and leading activities at each level.

The training received and talents of the young C.I.T's. are put into action. Being a counselor-in-training is an important role in the camp, in which leadership skills and good characters, integrity, patience and self-control are nurtured and developed. If you are accepted into the counselor-in-training program, your example is important and will be your gift to the young campers. At the end of the summer C.I.T. Program, you will have completed learning experiences & gained skills that they are able to build on, and be able to offer quality experiences to the youth you serve in any camp settings.

COUNSELOR IN TRAINING DESCRIPTION:

Counselors In Training assist Counselors and Aides. The position includes helping to lead games, songs, skits, and tell stories. Counselors In Training help with supervising campers in their group during recreation times, meal times, and assist with camp preparation, clean-up, camper check-in, serve as a positive role model for young children, and help to create a supportive camp community.

Eligibility:

CIT I

Must be between the of 12-13 years of age during the summer of camp.

Must be energetic, motivated to work with young children.

Must have completed application.

Must be committed to 1 day of mandatory pre- training June 22.

Qualifications:

Successful applicants will have desire to work with children. Previous summer camping experience is preferred but not required. Requires demonstrated maturity, energy, enthusiasm, communication skills. CPR and First Aid are recommended but not required. Must be 12-13 years old to be a counselor in Training.

CIT II

Must be 14 years of age during the summer of camp.

Must have been a CIT I at camp.

Must get nominated to by camp supervisor.

Must be energetic, motivated to work with young children.

Must have completed application.

Must be committed to 1 day of mandatory pre- training June 22.

Qualifications:

CPR and First Aid are recommended but not required.

CIT III

Must be 15 years of age during the summer of camp.

Must have been a CIT II at camp.

Must get nominated to by camp supervisor.

Must be energetic, motivated to work with young children.

Must be committed to 1 day of mandatory pre- training June 22.

Qualifications:

CPR and First Aid are recommended but not required.

Training Responsibilities and Duties Description Counselor In Training

Responsibilities:

- Campers Come First! Set a good example by being a positive role model.
- Assist Camp Counselors with daily activities, such as, crafts, games.
- Associate with campers NOT other counselors in training.
- Be punctual, attend and be an active part of all camp activities, participants must be able to
- Attend, 100% of the sessions enrolled in.
- Abide by all rules, policies and procedures.
- Treat all campers equally, there should be no favorites
- Be cooperative with the head counselors, your peers, and the campers.
- Be enthusiastic and have a positive attitude.

Specific Duties

1. Aid counselors by helping to get equipment and supplies ready for activities
2. Help to secure supplies and equipment after activities
3. Aid children in their learning by providing a good example
4. Help counselors and children by helping to keep track of their possessions
5. Help head counselors to children get to activity and lunch areas
6. Contribute ideas to improve the program
7. Report any unsafe actions by children or other CITs to the Head Counselor of your group
8. Provide children with role models
9. Assist in cleaning and disposing of trash
10. Ability to accept supervision and guidance
11. Good character, integrity, and adaptability
12. Set a good example for campers and others, including cleanliness, punctuality, sharing duties during cleanup
13. Respect each camper for their uniqueness - within each group help create a community of people.
14. Other duties as assigned by head counselor



Playground Camp C.I.T. Registration Form

EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN: These questions will help us in developing our training

1. Have you ever worked with a group of children? (Explain): _____

2. If a camper becomes homesick, what would you do? _____

3. If you heard a camper saying unkind words to another camper, how would you help?

4. If you have experience with any special skills listed below please put circle them.

Please rate your ability to help with activities in the following areas by placing a "1" by the activities you feel comfortable helping with; "2" by the activities you would need additional instruction to assist with; and "3" by the activities you do not feel comfortable assisting with.

(Do not feel you need to mark all boxes.)

☐ Art ☐ Storytelling ☐ Sing-a-longs ☐ Guitar

☐ Weaving ☐ Water games ☐ Group Games

☐ Paper making ☐ Gardening ☐ Journaling ☐ Papier-Mâché

☐ Paper bead making ☐ Crafts ☐ Graphic design

☐ Drama ☐ Team building ☐ Cooking ☐ Solar

☐ Musical Instrument ☐ Other ☐ Plant Dyeing

Other

Extracurricular Activities

Previous Work/Volunteer

Experience _____

MOTIVATION and INTENTION: I am asking to be a junior counselor-in-training because: (circle as many as apply)

1. One day I would like to be a counselor
2. I have enjoyed coming to Playground camp as a program participant
3. I'd like to learn to be a leader
4. I am completing service hours for my school
5. My guardian(s) want(s) me to come

6. Other: _____

1. Explain your understanding of "teamwork" _____

CAMP EXPERIENCE:

Have you ever attended camp as a camper? ____ Yes ____ No What do you remember most about your experience? _____

Camp Name: _____ Number of years: _____

Have you ever been a Counselor in Training (C.I.T.) before? ____ Yes ____ No

Camp Name: _____ Number of years: _____ Duties: _____

CIT INFORMATION FORM

Name: _____

Age as of June 23, 2015: _____ Nickname: _____

Birthday: _____ Sex: M _____ F _____

Parent/Guardian Information

FATHERS/MALE GUARDIAN NAME: _____

Place Employed: _____

Work #: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

MOTHER/FEMALE GUARDIAN NAME: _____

Place Employed: _____

Work #: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Emergency Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

PERSON(S) HAVING LEGAL CUSTODY OF CHILD:_____

Place Employed:_____

Work #:_____

Home Address:_____

City:_____ **State:**_____ **Zip:**_____

Home Phone: _____

Emergency Phone:_____

E-Mail: _____

Method of Transportation: *Please Circle One* Bike Walk Car Carpool

Name of Person authorized to pick-up child:_____

Name of Person NOT authorized to pick-up child:_____

*Appropriate paperwork such as the divorce decree shall be attached if a parent is not allowed to pick up their child**

Emergency Contacts: Please list the names, address, and phone numbers of two people who will be able to pick up teen:

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____

Name:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____

Please describe any allergies or other health problems: (Include any chronic physical problems and pertinent developmental information.) If an allergic reaction does occur, parents will be notified.

Doctor's Name & Phone: _____

Agreements

1. The Parent/Guardian authorizes the summer Playground CIT Camp program to obtain medical care if any emergency occurs when the parent/guardian cannot be located immediately.

2. other: _____

I/we assume all risks and hazards to participate in this activity including transportation to and from activity; and I/we do hereby waive, release, absolve, indemnify, and agree to hold blameless the Parks and Recreation Department, organizers, sponsors, supervisors, participants, and persons transporting myself/my child to or from activities when carrying out said responsibility in a safe, lawful, socially acceptable manner, for any claim arising out of injury to me/my child. I understand the Parks and Recreation Department assumes no responsibility for lost and stolen property.

I/we, the parents/guardian of the above named participant registered for a Parks and Recreation sponsored activity, Hereby give my/our approval for our child's participation in this activity. **I/we have notified in writing the Parks and Recreation Department of any special needs or medical conditions my/our child has that might affect his/her ability to participate in this activity.** The Parks and Recreation Department has permission to call my family physician in an emergency when I cannot be contacted.

The Parks and Recreation Department has my **authorization** and permission, in an emergency when I (or family member) cannot be located, **to authorize my child be treated by Certified Emergency Personnel (i.e. EMT, First Responder, E.R. Physician)** and to transport **my child** to the emergency room of the nearest hospital, and the hospital and its medical staff have the authorization to provide treatment which a physician deems necessary for the well being of my child.

Signatures

Parent/Guardian: _____

CIT Applicant: _____

Date: _____